

REMARKS

Upon entry of the instant Amendment, Claims 1-15 are pending. Claims 12-15 have been added to more particularly point out Applicants' invention. The Specification has been amended to change the title. No new matter has been added.

The Specification was objected to because the title was alleged to not be descriptive. The title has been amended to APPARATUS AND METHOD DISPATCHING MESSAGES AMONG REGISTERED SOFTWARE MODULES IN A TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit the objection is obviated.

The drawings were objected to because FIGS. 1, 3, and 6 allegedly lacked the legend "Prior Art" and were alleged to illustrate "only that which is old." Applicants respectfully submit that no such legend is needed. The figures are illustrative of, for example, a system and/or components including a dispatcher in accordance with embodiments of the present invention. See specification pages 4-7 for references to dispatcher 107 in Figs. 1 and 3 and page 10, lines 5-28 for types of container 604 defined within the dispatcher. As such, "Prior Art" would be inappropriate.

While reviewing the formal drawings, it came to Applicants' representative's attention that there are minor inadvertent errors. New formal drawings are hereby submitted wherein the dispatcher in Fig. 1 is now labeled "107" instead of "105" and the last worker thread in Fig. 5 is now labeled "502n" instead of "502a" and the last queue is now labeled "504n" instead of "504a". Support for the corrections may be found in the originally filed informal drawings and page 4, lines 3-4 and page 8, lines 11-14, of the specification.

Claims 1-3 and 6-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Dragnich et al., U.S. Patent No, 6,560,329 ("Dragnich"). In order for there to be anticipation, each and every element of the claimed invention must be present in a single prior reference. Applicants respectfully submit that the claimed invention is not taught, suggested, or implied by Dragnich.

As discussed in the Specification, a dispatcher is provided for delivering messages between dispatcher clients, i.e., software subsystems that may be in the same process, a different process, or on a different machine. The dispatcher manages a pool of threads to balance the workload. The dispatcher can process both synchronous and asynchronous messages by dispatching the message to all registered subsystems in order of their registered priority. Subsystems register for receiving predetermined messages. The dispatcher maintains a database of their destinations. The dispatcher itself needs to have no knowledge of the contents of messages that are to be sent; likewise, the sender software subsystems need have no knowledge of the corresponding destinations.

Thus, claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, “a software dispatcher adapted to maintain a list of message receivers; and a plurality of message receivers, said message receivers adapted to identify to said software dispatcher particular messages for receiving.” Similarly, claim 7, as amended, recites “maintaining a list of message receivers at a software dispatcher, said list comprising a list of integers identifying which receivers are to receive particular messages, said receivers registering to receive predetermined messages with said dispatcher”.

In contrast, Dragnich relates to a call agent system, including a call server 22. The call server 22 depends on “call arrival data intrinsic to the network,” such as automatic number identification (ANI) data for routing the call. See col. 5, lines 17-27. To route the call, the controller 20 “analyzes the associated call information for matches.” See col. 6, lines 45-47. Thus, Dragnich is dependent upon caller information sent as part of the call. As noted above, an aspect of the present invention relates to preregistering messages and intended receivers. Dragnich, however, appears to have nothing to do with registering receiving subsystems ahead of time with a dispatcher and identifying the messages those receivers are to receive; and then transmitting messages based upon a dispatcher identification, independent of message parameters, as generally recited in the claims at issue. Instead, Dragnich is dependent upon the calling party provided message parameters for determining a destination

agent. As such, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection of the claims.

Claims 4-5 and 10-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dragnich in view of Neuman et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,594,255 ("Neuman"). Applicants respectfully submit that the claimed invention is not taught, suggested, or implied by Dragnich or Neuman, either singly or in combination. Dragnich has been discussed above. Neuman is relied on for allegedly teaching "dispatching messages as flexible message parameters." Like Dragnich, however, Neuman does not appear to relate to dispatching messages by registering receiving subsystems ahead of time with a dispatcher and identifying the messages those receivers are to receive, as generally recited in the claims at issue. Instead, Neuman relates to a text messaging system in which identification, address, and content are provided. Thus, like Drainich, Neuman does not appear to relate to the problem solved by the present invention. As such, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection of the claims.

For reasons similar to those discussed above, newly added claims 12-15 are likewise believed allowable.

For all of the above reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance, which allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully requested,


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